

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the drawings as follows:

Please amend paragraph [0023] as follows:

[0023] FIG. 5 is a perspective view of the metal strip fastening cage; [[and]]

Please amend paragraph number [0024] as follows:

[0024] FIG. 6 is a perspective view of the cage of the low sliding load intermediate shaft in FIG. 1 with the metal strips provided therein[.]] and

FIG. 7 is an exploded perspective view of the shaft of the embodiment of Fig. 1

Please amend paragraphs [0031] - [0032] as follows:

[0031] (10) fastening cage recesses;~~and~~

[0032] (11) metal strip fastening cage[.]];

(12) recesses;

(13) slots; and

(12) deformations.

Please amend paragraph [0035] as follows:

[0035] The metal strips (7), provided between the male member (4) and the female member (2), are inserted into recesses (10) in a fastening cage (11) , as it may be seen from FIGS. 5 and 6. The cage (11) has a cross section complementary to the cross section of the members (2, 4) of the shaft (1), it is provided surrounding the outside of the male member (4), and it is fitted inside the female member (2). The cage (11) is clamped to the male member (4)

by means of protrusion-like deformations (~~not shown~~) 14 on the lateral surface ~~thereof~~ of the
male member (4) which engage corresponding slots (13) of the cage (11).